

Appl. No. 10/611,998
Amendment dated: October 2, 2006
Reply to OA of: May 30, 2006

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1(canceled).

2(currently amended). A method for treating a spinal disorder comprising:

implanting a flexible and permeable filling member in a spinal segment or intervertebral space, which member is formed of one or more meshed walls and provided with a holding portion and an injection port in communication with said holding portion, said meshed walls being elastically compressible and a single-layer wall or a laminated multi-layer wall, and each layer of which is provided with a plurality of pores, each having a diameter smaller than 0.1 mm, so that said meshed walls are not air-tight; and

injecting a pasty medicine capable of solidification into said holding portion via said injection port of said filling member,

wherein said injection of said pasty medicine into said holding portion results in expansion of said filling member after said filling member being implanted in the spinal segment or the intervertebral space, whereby said filling member is securely lodged in the spinal segment or the intervertebral space upon completion of the solidification of said pasty medicine.

Claims 3-9(canceled).

10(original). The method as defined in claim 2, wherein said meshed walls are of a single-layer wall construction.

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11(currently amended). The method as defined in claim 2, wherein said meshed walls are of a laminated multi-layer wall construction, wherein the layers of the laminated multi-layer wall are laminated in such a way that the pores of the layers are not necessarily aligned, and that the laminated multi-layer wall is permeable to liquid and the laminated multi-layer wall do not allow passage by solid.

12(original). The method as defined in claim 2, wherein said filling member is integrally made of one meshed wall such that said filling member takes the form of a sac, bag, or ball.

13(original). The method as defined in claim 2, wherein said pasty medicine is a mixture of a liquid and a bone cement.

14(original). The method as defined in claim 13, wherein said bone cement is selected from the group consisting of gypsum, calcium sulfate, calcium phosphate, poly(methylmethacrylate) and hydroxy apatite.

15(original). The method as defined in claim 2 further comprising fastening detachably an injection tool with said filling member, so that said pasty medicine is injected into said holding portion via said injection tool.

16(original). The method as defined in claim 15, wherein said injection tool comprises a connection tube and a syringe formed of a barrel and a plunger, said connection tube being fastened detachably at one end with said injection port of said filling member, said connection tube further being fastened at other end with said barrel of said syringe; wherein said pasty medicine is injected into said holding portion of said filling member from said barrel by said plunger via said connection tube.